WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A catalytic converter, comprising:

a carrier;

a hydrocarbon (HC) trap layer trapping HC, said HC trap layer being disposed on the carrier; and

at least two catalyst layers comprising an inner layer disposed on the HC trap layer and an outer layer disposed on the inner layer, said inner and outer layers comprising catalyst noble metals,

an amount of said catalyst noble metal present in the outer layer based on a unit volume of the carrier being larger than an amount of the catalyst noble metal present in the inner layer based on the unit volume of the carrier.

2. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the catalyst noble metals comprise rhodium, an amount of the rhodium being calculated as a value obtained by multiplying the amount of the rhodium by a predetermined number.

3. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 2, wherein the predetermined number is defined depending on the kind of the catalyst noble metals other than rhodium.

4. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 2, wherein the outer layer comprising the rhodium is an outer-most layer.

5. A catalytic converter, comprising:

a hydrocarbon (HC) trap layer trapping HC; and

at least two catalyst layers comprising an inner layer disposed on the HC trap layer and an outer

layer disposed on the inner layer, each of said inner and outer layers comprising a catalyst noble metal and a washcoat,

a mass ratio of said catalyst noble metal present in the outer layer to the washcoat present therein being higher than a mass ratio of the catalyst noble metal present in the inner layer to the washcoat present therein.

6. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 5, wherein the outer layer is an outer-most layer, a mass ratio of the catalyst noble metal present in said outer-most layer to the washcoat present therein being five times or more a mass ratio of the catalyst noble metal present in the inner layer below the outer-most layer to the washcoat present therein.

7. A catalytic converter, comprising:

a carrier;

a hydrocarbon (HC) trap layer trapping HC, said HC trap layer being disposed on the carrier; and

at least two catalyst layers comprising an inner layer disposed on the HC trap layer and an outer layer disposed on the inner layer, each of said inner and outer layers comprising a catalyst noble metal and a washcoat,

an amount of said washcoat present in the outer layer based on a unit volume of the carrier being smaller than an amount of the washcoat present in the inner layer based on the unit volume of the carrier.

8. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the outer layer is an outer-most layer, said outer-most layer comprising palladium, said inner

layer disposed below the outer-most layer comprising a combination selected from palladium, platinum and rhodium.

9. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 2, wherein the outer layer is an outer-most layer, said outer-most layer comprising palladium, said inner layer disposed below the outer-most layer comprising a combination selected from palladium, platinum and rhodium.

10. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 5, wherein the outer layer is an outer-most layer, said outer-most layer comprising palladium, said inner layer disposed below the outer-most layer comprising a combination selected from palladium, platinum and rhodium.

11. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 6, wherein the outer-most layer comprises palladium, said inner layer disposed below the outer-most layer comprising a combination selected from palladium, platinum and rhodium.

12. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 7, wherein the outer layer is an outer-most layer, said outer-most layer comprising palladium, said inner layer disposed below the outer-most layer comprising a combination selected from palladium, platinum and rhodium.

13. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 1, wherein the inner and outer layers comprise promoters, respectively, an amount of said promoter present in

the outer layer based on the unit volume of the carrier being smaller than an amount of said promoter present in the inner layer based on the unit volume of the carrier.

14. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 2, wherein the inner and outer layers comprise promoters, respectively, an amount of said promoter present in the outer layer based on the unit volume of the carrier being smaller than an amount of said promoter present in the inner layer based on the unit volume of the carrier.

15. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 5, further comprising a carrier supporting the HC trap layer, said inner and outer layers comprising promoters, respectively, an amount of said promoter present in the outer layer based on the unit volume of the carrier being smaller than an amount of said promoter present in the inner layer based on the unit volume of the carrier.

16. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 6, further comprising a carrier supporting the HC trap layer, said inner and outer layers comprising promoters, respectively, an amount of said promoter present in the outer layer based on the unit volume of the carrier being smaller than an amount of said promoter present in the inner layer based on the unit volume of the carrier.

17. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 7, wherein said inner and outer layers comprising promoters, respectively, an amount of said promoter

present in the outer layer based on the unit volume of the carrier being smaller than an amount of said promoter present in the inner layer based on the unit volume of the carrier.

18. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 8, wherein said inner and outer layers comprising promoters, respectively, an amount of said promoter present in the outer layer based on the unit volume of the carrier being smaller than an amount of said promoter present in the inner layer based on the unit volume of the carrier.

19. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a base coat layer disposed between the carrier and the HC trap layer, said base coat layer comprising one of alumina and silica as a main component.

20. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 2, further comprising a base coat layer disposed between the carrier and the HC trap layer, said base coat layer comprising one of alumina and silica as a main component.

21. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 5, further comprising a base coat layer disposed between the carrier and the HC trap layer, said base coat layer comprising one of alumina and silica as a main component.

22. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 6, further comprising a base coat layer disposed between the carrier and the HC trap layer, said base coat

layer comprising one of alumina and silica as a main component.

23. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 7, further comprising a base coat layer disposed between the carrier and the HC trap layer, said base coat layer comprising one of alumina and silica as a main component.

24. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 8, further comprising a base coat layer disposed between the carrier and the HC trap layer, said base coat layer comprising one of alumina and silica as a main component.

25. A catalytic converter, comprising:

a carrier;

a hydrocarbon (HC) trap layer trapping HC, said HC trap layer being disposed on the carrier; and

a multilayered catalyst system disposed on the HC trap layer, said multilayered catalyst system comprising a first catalyst layer disposed on the HC trap layer and a second catalyst layer disposed on the first catalyst layer, said first and second catalyst layers comprising catalyst noble metals, respectively, said catalyst noble metal present in the second catalyst layer being controlled to be active earlier than the catalyst noble metal present in the first catalyst layer.

26. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 25, wherein an amount of the catalyst noble metal present in the second catalyst layer based on a unit volume of the carrier is larger than an amount of the

catalyst noble metal present in the first catalyst layer based on the unit volume of the carrier.

27. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 25, wherein the first and second catalyst layers comprise washcoats, respectively, a mass ratio of said catalyst noble metal present in the second catalyst layer to the washcoat present therein being higher than a mass ratio of the catalyst noble metal present in the first catalyst layer to the washcoat present therein.

28. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 26, wherein the catalyst noble metal present in the second catalyst layer comprises rhodium, an amount of said rhodium being calculated as a value obtained by multiplying the amount of the rhodium by a predetermined number.

29. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 28, wherein the predetermined number is defined depending on the kind of the catalyst noble metals other than rhodium.

30. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 25, wherein the first and second catalyst layers comprise washcoats, respectively, an amount of said washcoat present in the second catalyst layer based on a unit volume of the carrier being smaller than an amount of the washcoat present in the first catalyst layer based on the unit volume of the carrier.

31. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 25, wherein the first and second catalyst layers comprise

promoters, respectively, an amount of said promoter present in the second catalyst layer based on a unit volume of the carrier being smaller than an amount of the promoter present in the first catalyst layer based on the unit volume of the carrier.

32. A catalytic converter as claimed in claim 25, further comprising a base coat layer disposed between the carrier and the HC trap layer, said base coat layer comprising one of alumina and silica as a main component.